AN OUTSTANDING HUMAN

Jean Giles & Emma Rolls*

Jean: When I first started teaching at the law school, my office was directly across the hall from Dan’s. From the beginning, he went out of his way to make me feel welcome. He always had a smile, a crazy story, and kind words to offer. Even though Emma and I are about the same age as Dan’s daughters, he always treated us as valued colleagues.

Emma: In addition to showing interest in my professional growth, Dan never missed the opportunity to get to know me as a person. He always asked about my daughter, Amelia, and we compared notes on his grandchildren and Amelia. Dan gave me several opportunities for professional growth, including letting me help with the Court of Criminal Appeals visits and giving me, Jean, and Laurie the opportunity to take over the Oklahoma Trial Practice book.

Jean: I got to work very closely with Dan on the Admissions Committee for about seven years. He and the other members of the Committee always treated my opinions and ideas as valuable. Dan was particularly kind when my son Will was born and came with me to meetings while I was on maternity leave. I’ve also had several opportunities to see Dan in lawyer mode rather than professor mode, and it was obvious what a talented trial attorney he was.

Emma: What is most impressive about Dan is his ability to balance many roles perfectly. He’s been an exemplary professor, a generous colleague, a dedicated family man, a pragmatic lawyer, and a devoted member of the Oklahoma City University School of Law community. He is the rare breed who does it all beautifully. In getting to know Dan over the last nine years, I feel as though I’ve found a mentor and a life-long

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friend. We will miss seeing him every day, but we will keep him in mind as an example of not only an outstanding professor but also an outstanding human.
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